



United States Department  
of Agriculture

National Agricultural  
Statistics Service

USDA/NASS  
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# Washington Crop Weather

Released: November 26, 2007  
Week Ending: November 25, 2007  
CWP WA-CW4707

## Recent Rains Help Grain Growers Snow Covers the Palouse as Winter Arrives Field Crops

Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.2. Cold temperatures have stopped most fieldwork. A good rain was received just before a cold period set into place. This was excellent for germination and emergence. Snow has now blanketed much of the Palouse, and below freezing temperatures have thus far kept it in place. Franklin County reported dryland CRP seeding conditions greatly improved with the rain, and their corn harvest continued. Christmas tree growers were busy marketing and harvesting trees.

### Fruits and Vegetables

In the Yakima Valley, evening lows reached the lower 20s. Many fruit trees were dormant. Some growers were pruning.

### Livestock and Shellfish

Range and pasture conditions were 2% very poor, 32% poor, 21% fair, 41% good and 4% excellent. Lincoln County reported some livestock were still grazing pasture and range. Other counties reported stock were off range and winter feeding had begun. Oyster harvest and processing activities continued with good prices and strong holiday demand. Oysters were being shipped to all parts of the country.

### Days Suitable for Fieldwork

Week	Days
This Week	5.5
Last Week	4.2

### Moisture and Supply

Item	Percent			
	VS	SH	AD	S
Topsoil	8	20	64	8
Subsoil	12	36	51	1
Irrigation Water	6	10	82	2
Hay & Roughage	27	23	48	2

VS=Very Short SH=Short AD=Adequate S=Surplus

### Crop Progress

Crop/Activity	Percent Completed			
	This Week	Last Week	2006	5 Yr. Avg.
Winter Wheat Emerged	97	93	99	97
Potatoes Harvested	100	99	100	100
Field Corn Harvested for Grain	92	90	99	97

### Crop Condition\*

Crop	% Acreage				
	VP	P	F	G	EX
Winter Wheat Dryland	1	4	57	35	3
Winter Wheat Irrigated	0	1	7	88	4

VP=Very Poor P=Poor F=Fair G=Good EX=Excellent

\*Crop conditions are a measurement of the growing conditions and are not indicative of the quality of the crop produced.

# COUNTY COMMENTS

## Western

**Clallam/Jefferson:** The temperature dropped to the 30s during the week. There was nothing unusual to report.

**Grays Harbor/Lewis/Pacific:** Christmas tree harvest peaked. The weather was drier than normal the past month, which means there have been no flood problems.

**Mason:** Cold overnight temperatures and almost no precipitation kept the ground frozen and winter crops under cover during the week. Surface water levels were lower than normal for this time of year. Livestock were being fed and were off pasture for the season.

**Pacific:** Colder fall weather was a preview of winter conditions ahead. Christmas tree growers completed wholesale harvest operations and initiated U-Cut holiday sales. Prices were affected by heavy production nationwide. Oyster harvest and processing activities continued with good prices during the strong holiday market, and product shipments to all parts of the country. Pasture

conditions continued to decline with the colder, wetter weather.

**Pierce/S. King:** There were no unusual situations to report and no reports of crop damage due to a weather event.

**Skagit/San Juan/Island:** The weather consisted of cold frosty nights and foggy mornings with mostly clear sunny days. A couple of days were rainy during the week. Fall crops were doing well, and there were no reports of crop damage.

**Snohomish/N. King:** The temperature turned cold with lows in the 20s for three nights in a row, and daytime temperatures were in the mid-40s.

**Whatcom:** It was a dry week with nightly temperatures below freezing. The daytime high averaged 42 degrees. Christmas tree producers were busy marketing their trees.

## Central

**Benton:** Much needed rain was received during the week. The county received between 0.5 and 1.5 inches of rain depending on the location. The central and eastern portions of the county recorded the heaviest precipitation.

**Chelan:** Below freezing temperatures were occurring every day.

**Douglas/Chelan:** Temperatures were cold but normal. Fruit trees were dormant. Some growers began pruning their orchards. Winter wheat condition continued to be below normal. Several producers replanted areas which had not emerged. Most livestock producers brought their animal's home for winter feeding.

**Franklin:** Cold temperatures prevailed throughout the week with a couple of good rain showers that covered most of the county. Dryland CRP seeding conditions improved greatly with much needed precipitation. Dryland wheat emergence also improved with the added precipitation.

**Grant:** Dry corn and fresh carrot harvests continued. A heavy windstorm during the week knocked down some dry corn acreage. Dryland winter wheat acreage looked good.

**Kittitas:** Hay was in short supply and expensive. Producers with winter pasture plan to use it as long as possible. Cattlemen were primarily using hay stubble and corn stubble for supplemental forage.

**Klickitat:** The weather was cold—in the teens all week.

**Yakima:** Weather conditions included prolonged cold temperatures with many evenings reaching the lower 20s as well as overcast skies with some freezing rain and snow. There was little accumulation during the week.

**Yakima (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** Average temperatures varied from 1 degree above normal to 10 degrees below normal, with a trace of precipitation. No crop damage due to weather conditions was reported.

# Eastern

**Adams:** The week was cool with mostly cloudy days and freezing nights. The weekend temperatures dipped into the teens each night with no winds, so there was little chance of injury to seeded crops. A few CRP seeders worked on dormant seedings, and stubble bursting activities continued throughout the county.

**Asotin:** Recent rain and snowfall helped to refill the soil profile, but above normal precipitation will be needed this winter since the county has experienced several years of below normal moisture.

**Garfield/Asotin:** Rain and snow received early in the week improved moisture conditions. Cold weather followed with temperatures below normal for this time of year. Winter wheat emerged in most areas but was vulnerable to winter damage.

**Lincoln:** Colder than normal weather was experienced. More moisture was needed to maintain grain crops during winter dormancy. Some livestock were still grazing pastures and ranges, but cold weather has necessitated supplemental feeding in most cases.

**Pend Oreille:** A week of below freezing temperatures with no moisture put the growing season into hibernation for the small grains. There was an

inch or more of frost in the soil, so fieldwork was complete for the most part. Cattle feeding continued.

**Stevens:** Temperatures were cold during the week. Winter feeding continued on cattle operations. A few local producers marketed cows and calves.

**Walla Walla:** The rain came just in time before the cold snap hit, which really perked up the wheat. Spotty germination took off, and emergence looked much better. Livestock were started on winter feed, though hay was in short supply. More rain and snow would be great for the wheat and grass, but would put pressure on hay supplies.

**Walla Walla (2<sup>nd</sup> Report):** Colder temperatures stopped most fieldwork. Snow showers were received on Monday, November 19. Temperatures averaged around 40 during the day and below freezing at night.

**Whitman:** Weather conditions seemed to go from fall to winter very quickly. Snow blanketed much of the Palouse during the week. Below freezing temperatures kept much of the snow cover in place. Additional snowfall or rain would be welcome. Precipitation levels were finally normal for the month of November, after much of 2007 has been below normal.

**Weekly Weather Statistics**  
November 26, 2007

STATION	AIR TEMPERATURE				GROWING DEGREE DAYS				LAST WEEK PRECIP			SEASON CUM PRECIP			
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	LO	HI	AVG	DFN	BASE-50F		BASE-60F		TOTAL INCHES	DFN	DAYS	TOTAL INCHES	PCT		
					TOT	DFN	TOT	DFN					DFN	NORMAL	DAYS
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WEST															
Bellingham Intl	22	46	35	-7	0	+0	0	+0	0.15	-1.07	2	6.63	-2.86	70	44
Everett	29	45	38	-6	0	-2	0	+0	0.23	-0.98	2	8.12	-1.14	88	42
Hoquiam	32	52	43	-4	0	-7	0	+0	0.07	-2.45	2	11.54	-6.30	65	44
Kelso	25	48	38	-5	0	-7	0	+0	0.37	-1.28	2	8.31	-3.27	72	28
Olympia	20	48	37	-5	0	-4	0	+0	0.03	-2.00	1	10.30	-2.91	78	40
Seattle-Tacoma	29	47	40	-5	0	-7	0	+0	0.45	-1.02	2	9.68	-0.22	98	42
Shelton	21	48	36	-8	0	-7	0	+0	0.05	-2.53	2	13.75	-2.83	83	39
Tacoma WA AP	21	47	37	-7	0	-2	0	+0	0.09	-1.41	1	7.87	-2.27	78	33
Vancouver WA	24	50	39	-5	0	-6	0	+0	0.79	-0.71	2	8.24	-1.73	83	32
CENTRAL															
Ellensburg	13	39	27	-7	0	-6	0	+0	0.31	+0.00	1	1.81	-0.20	90	17
Omak AP	8	40	27	-5	0	+0	0	+0	0.00	-0.42	0	1.76	-1.22	59	13
Stampede Pass	16	33	26	-3	0	+0	0	+0	0.49	-2.57	4	18.73	-1.15	94	51
Wenatchee	21	40	30	-5	0	+0	0	+0	0.23	-0.05	1	0.93	-0.83	53	11
Yakima AP	18	44	30	-7	0	+0	0	+0	0.37	+0.09	1	1.76	+0.06	104	14
NORTHEAST															
Colville	12	40	26	-7	0	+0	0	+0	0.00	-0.70	0	2.78	-1.77	61	27
Deer Park	11	42	25	-8	0	+0	0	+0	0.00	-0.68	0	3.71	-0.37	91	25
Republic	12	38	27	-3	0	+0	0	+0	0.00	-0.42	0	2.59	-0.50	84	21
Spokane AP	17	39	26	-7	0	+0	0	+0	0.05	-0.51	1	2.72	-0.75	78	26
EAST CENTRAL															
Ephrata	21	42	31	-5	0	+0	0	-1	0.20	-0.08	1	1.34	-0.29	82	16
Moses Lake	17	42	30	-6	0	+0	0	-1	0.18	-0.10	1	1.42	-0.21	87	15
Quincy	20	43	31	-4	0	-2	0	+0	0.17	-0.12	1	1.73	-0.10	95	17
Ritzville	18	41	29	-6	0	-3	0	+0	0.25	-0.17	2	2.06	-0.60	77	19
SOUTHEAST															
Hanford	23	44	32	-8	0	-7	0	-1	0.13	-0.15	1	1.10	-0.45	71	13
Pasco	20	45	34	-7	0	-7	0	+0	0.24	-0.04	1	1.64	-0.12	93	15
Pullman	16	35	27	-9	0	+0	0	+0	0.33	-0.35	3	4.59	-0.01	100	23
Walla Walla Rgn	26	40	32	-9	0	-7	0	+0	0.32	-0.31	2	3.43	-1.26	73	21
Whitman Mission	20	44	31	-9	0	-7	0	+0	0.62	+0.16	3	2.91	-0.29	91	23
WESTERN IDAHO PANHANDLE															
Lewiston ID	22	48	32	-8	0	+0	0	+0	0.73	+0.45	3	2.73	+0.10	104	23

Summary based on NWS data.

Season Cumulative Precip Starts: Friday September 1, 2007

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period).

NA = Data Unavailable

Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

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National weather summary: <http://usda.mannlib.cornell.edu/reports/waobr/weather/2007/summary/weth1606.pdf>

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